

Regional School Unit No. 5
17 West Street, Freeport, Maine 04032

Durham

Freeport

Pownal

Strategic Communications Subcommittee Report

Date: February 8, 2013

Committee: Strategic Communications

Chair: Jane Blais

Meeting Dates: January 23, 2013

Agenda Items and Discussion:

Preliminary information for the State of the Schools report

Joe Makley presented the early data gathered to assess the RSU5 Strategic Plan, including NECAP and MHSA scores, Financial data, College attendance, etc. The data will be published in the State of the Schools report, to be mailed to every household in March.

Strategic Plan Update (Standards-based)

Joe Makley described the progress toward the implementation of a standards-based system. The elementary schools are already using standards-based curricula in math and reading, will be implementing writing formally this fall. The middle schools and the high school are redesigning units and courses to improve rigor and alignment with the new Common Core State Standards, in preparation for the “Smarter-Balanced” computer-based assessments that will replace the NECAPs during the 2014-2015 school year. The high school is working to clarify the “pathways,” or options for students to achieve a “proficiency-based” diploma by 2018.

Communications/ Education Forum:

The committee discussed options for obtaining public participation and feedback on the State of the Schools report. It was decided to hold three “Dine and Discuss” sessions, one in each of the towns. Topics will include the State of the Schools report, the 2013-2014 Proposed Budget and the Freeport High School Renovation Project. Conversations will take place from 5:30-6:30 p.m. on the following dates:

Wednesday, April 10, 2013 – Pownal Elementary School

Wednesday, April 24, 2013 – Durham Community School

Wednesday, May 1, 2013 – Freeport High School

Next Strategic Communications Meeting: March 12, 2013 @ 4:30 p.m. at the Central Office

Press release recommended? No

Submitted by: Joe Makley